

years as the President and CEO of the Ventura County Community Foundation. It has been my honor to collaborate and work with Hugh and there is no doubt in my mind that his influence will extend to many generations of community engagement and philanthropy.

HONORING MR. NEAL HARRELL
FOR HIS WORK AS AN INTER-
NATIONAL FOUNDATION VOLUN-
TEER IN HONDURAS

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Mr. Neal Harrell for his tremendous volunteer efforts with the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's International Foundation. It is an honor to have such an upstanding citizen in my district.

Recently, Mr. Harrell, who is an employee of Cuivre River Electric Cooperative, traveled to Honduras as an International Foundation volunteer to help employees at the Roatan Electric Cooperative implement their newly-acquired smart grid system. This trip was part of the Smart Grid Alliance for the Americas project. Mr. Harrell's volunteer efforts supported the Alliance's goal to share experience and provide technical assistance in smart grid technology applications to cooperative, municipal and other small electric distribution utilities in Latin America.

Mr. Harrell's efforts will help the Smart Grid Alliance of the Americas project improve energy efficiency, integrate renewable generation, and most importantly improve access to electricity for underserved communities in Latin America. I ask that you join me in recognizing Neal Harrell for his excellence in volunteer work for electric cooperatives across the nation. It is an honor to represent him in the United States Congress.

IN COMMEMORATION OF YOSEMITE
NATIONAL PARK'S 150TH AN-
NIVERSARY

HON. TOM MCCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, we rise today to honor one of our nation's greatest landmarks, Yosemite National Park. I am proud to be joined by: Rep. LAMALFA, Rep. HUFFMAN, Rep. GARAMENDI, Rep. THOMPSON, Rep. MATSUI, Rep. BERA, Rep. COOK, Rep. MCNERNEY, Rep. DENHAM, Rep. GEORGE MILLER, Rep. SPEIER, Rep. SWALWELL, Rep. COSTA, Rep. HONDA, Rep. ESHOO, Rep. LOFGREN, Rep. FARR, Rep. VALADAO, Rep. NUNES, Rep. MCCARTHY, Rep. CAPPS, Rep. BROWNLEY, Rep. CHU, Rep. SCHIFF, Rep. CÁRDENAS, Rep. SHERMAN, Rep. GARY MILLER, Rep. NAPOLITANO, Rep. WAXMAN, Rep. BECERRA, Rep. NEGRETE MCLEOD, Rep. RUIZ, Rep. BASS, Rep. LINDA SÁNCHEZ, Rep. ROYCE, Rep. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Rep. TAKANO, Rep. CALVERT, Rep. HAHN, Rep. CAMPBELL, Rep. LORETTA SANCHEZ, Rep. LOWENTHAL, Rep. ROHR-

ABACHER, Rep. ISSA, Rep. HUNTER, Rep. VARGAS, Rep. PETERS, and Rep. DAVIS.

This year marks the 150th anniversary of President Lincoln's Yosemite Grant Act, creating, on June 30, 1864, the earliest parts of what would grow into the beautiful national park that we have today.

In the midst of the Civil War, President Lincoln took the unprecedented step of setting aside this scenic tract of wilderness in central California for public use and recreation. The creation of this first public park, preserved for the enjoyment of the public, served as the catalyst for the creation of a vast system of lands that provide recreational opportunities across the country, including more than 400 national parks.

Yosemite's development into a national park made it one of the nation's first travel destinations. Countless millions of Americans have visited the park over the last 150 years to enjoy the scenic beauty of nature. More than just idle viewing, Yosemite's heritage includes a dedication to camping and hiking that allows park visitors to immerse themselves in one of the American people's greatest treasures. Providing these various recreational activities, that so greatly enhance the visitor experience, is the lifeblood of the surrounding foothill communities.

Today, Yosemite National Park receives over 4 million annual visitors. They come from around the world to see the beauty and majesty of our nation. This includes Yosemite's two Wild and Scenic Rivers, the Tuolumne and the Merced; over 800 miles of trails, including the renowned Pacific Crest Trail and the John Muir Trail; the awe-inspiring scenery created by the area's rich volcanic and glacial history; and the groves of Giant Sequoia trees.

The park includes parts of the Sierra Nevada Mountains and contains several of the highest peaks in North America. Some of the world's most spectacular and unique geologic formations exist in Yosemite National Park, including renowned formations such as Half Dome, Sentinel Dome, El Capitan, Glacier Point and the Royal Arches. Where the rivers wind through these impressive geological formations, there are some of the world's most majestic waterfalls: Yosemite Falls, Snow Creek Falls, Sentinel Falls, Bridalveil Fall, Nevada Fall, and Waterwheel Falls, to name a few.

Mr. Speaker, Yosemite National Park is truly one of our nation's greatest treasures and we ask all the Members of this body to join us in celebrating its past and committing to preserving its future.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE HOME-
COMING OF THE CHARLES W.
MORGAN

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the return of the *Charles W. Morgan* whaling ship to New Bedford, Massachusetts.

The *Morgan* is the last American whaling ship in a fleet that had at one time numbered over 2,700 vessels. Built and launched in 1841, she is the oldest American commercial

ship that is still afloat. Known as a "lucky ship", the *Morgan* successfully navigated dangerous storms, Arctic ice, and the roundings of Cape Horn during her 80-year whaling career. The ship embarked on 37 voyages between 1841 and 1921, covering every corner of the globe.

The *Morgan* was designated a National Historic Landmark by order of the Secretary of the Interior in 1966, and she was also a recipient of the coveted World Ship Trust Award. Since her arrival at Mystic Seaport, more than 20 million visitors have walked her decks. Next week will be a homecoming for the *Morgan* as she returns to New Bedford, Massachusetts, the site of her initial launch on July 21, 1841 from the yard of Jethro and Zachariah.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to celebrate the *Charles W. Morgan* on this joyous occasion of her homecoming to New Bedford. I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating her long and storied career.

IN SUPPORT OF COMPREHENSIVE
IMMIGRATION REFORM

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, efforts to reform our immigration system in the House have been blocked. It's been a year since our counterparts in the Senate passed bipartisan, comprehensive legislation, but the House Republican leadership has rejected the Senate bill without any attempt to shape a House response.

Meanwhile, 11 million undocumented immigrants who pay taxes and defend our country continue to be deported; potentially 135,000 immigrants a year may be wrongfully detained and exploited according to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement contracts with detention centers; and countless others frequently endure harassment and abuse in the workplace because they are not legally recognized.

When did we veer so dangerously far off course? America has always been a nation of immigrants. From the first settlers, to the Great Wave, to the fight for legalization today, we're all either immigrants ourselves or direct descendants of them.

In fact, twenty-six percent of residents in my congressional district were born in a foreign country, compared to 13 percent nationwide.

As a first-generation American, I know the human side of this issue. My father traveled thousands of miles to this land, huddled by his mother's side, fleeing the religious persecution of Christians. He studied, learned, worked and excelled. He married, loved and raised his three children. He flew the American flag in front of his home every day, sang the praises of our country, and said prayers of thanksgiving daily for the blessings of America.

The opportunity my family was given in America is always with me, and I'm committed to seeing that everyone has a share in that same opportunity.

As a policymaker, I recognize that comprehensive immigration reform will also provide immense economic benefits to our country.